



## CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

### **Press Release**

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## **“Women in Transportation” Names High-Speed Rail Deputy Director Carrie Pourvahidi Woman of the Year**

**Sacramento, CA—** California High-Speed Rail Authority Deputy Director Carrie Pourvahidi has been named the Woman of the Year by the Sacramento Chapter of the Women in Transportation (WTS).

The annual award honors "a woman who is an outstanding role model and has contributed to the advancement of women and minorities in transportation." Pourvahidi, who was recognized for her "outstanding contributions to the regional transportation community," has been a long-time advocate for building a world-class high-speed train system in California.



Photo Credit: Sacramento Regional Transit District

Will Kempton, Director, California Department of Transportation, presents Carrie Pourvahidi, California High-Speed Rail Authority, with the Women of the Year award

"It's a pleasure to work with so many impressive women who are making their mark on transportation issues," said Pourvahidi. "I'm also thrilled that the stars have aligned perfectly so that we can finally make high-speed trains in California a reality. We've been thinking about it, and planning for it, now we're on the verge of implementing which is very exciting.

"Our system is poised to boost California's economy at a critical time. Californians want good jobs and less congestion. I'm proud to work on a project that addresses both needs in an environmentally sustainable way."

Pourvahidi is 10-year veteran of the California High-Speed Rail Authority. WTS is an international organization dedicated to the advancement of women in transportation by promoting excellence, growth, opportunity, and recognition. The organization provides an interactive forum for the advancement of multi-modal transportation issues. For additional information visit <http://www.wtsinternational.org/>.

Carrie Pourvahidi joined the California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) in 1998 as the Chief Fiscal Officer. In 2001, Carrie became one of two Deputy Director's for the Authority. She is currently in charge of directing the work of the Program Management Team as well as the preliminary engineering and environmental efforts currently underway in the three regions stretching from Sacramento to Los Angeles.

Carrie comes to this position with experience in transportation finance having held positions at Business, Transportation and Housing Agency and the Department of Transportation. She is also directing development of the Financing Plan for the entire high-speed train program.

*The California High-Speed Rail Authority is responsible for building high-speed train service covering 800 miles at speeds over 220 MPH. Voters approved Proposition 1A on the November 2008 ballot putting a down payment on what will be America's first high-speed train system. By linking all major cities in California with a state of the art new transportation option, California's high-speed train system will increase mobility while cutting air pollution and reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming. Building the high-speed train system will cost less than half the cost of freeway and aviation alternatives. Operating the system will create an annual surplus of over \$1 billion.*

*For route information, visual simulations and more, please visit [www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov).*

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